

The Gem State Guardian

The official newsletter of the

ISSUE #93 OCTOBER 30 2015

Guardian Online Staff Maj. Gen. Gary Sayler Commanding General

Always Ready

Idaho National Guard NATIONAL GUARD Always There

Idaho Army National Guard at its best - during best medic competition **IDNG Public Affairs**

Idaho Army National Guard members 1st Sgt. Alice Randolph and Sgt. 1st Class Erin Smith both competed in this year's 2015 Jack L. Clark, Jr. U.S. Army Best Medic competition, held at Joint Base San Antonio at Camp Bollis, Texas.

Randolph and Smith comprised of the first all-female Army National Guard team in the history of the competition. Additionally, of the 64 Soldiers from across the Army that competed in the grueling, continuous 72-hour, two-Soldier competition, the Idaho Citizen-Soldiers were the only National Guard competitors in this vear's contest. The competition included events designed to test both physical and cognitive skills: patient evacuation, mass-casualty evacuation; land navigation and level-2 care were but a few of the challenges.

During the competition, Randolph was asked by a reporter why "shoot, move, communicate, and medicate" is so important. "It saves lives," Randolph, simply said.

This competition year's was considerably more difficult than in previous years. Additional and more challenging events were added, such as an event that had the two Soldiers evacuating a patient under simulated enemy fire. But despite all this, it did not hamper their remarkable drive,

determination, and dedication to finish strong.

Cpt. Casey Seckel, a medical company commander in the Idaho Army National Guard was there to witness the team every step of the way. "The resiliency, attitude and perseverance of these two NCOs throughout the entire event was truly incredible. Even during the toughest parts they found a way to stay focused and positive," Seckel said.

the end. congratulations went to the 173rd Airborne Brigade who claimed the title as the Army's top medic team for 2015. Second place went to Regional Health Command -

Pacific, and third went to Army -Alaska. However, we can honestly say that of all the all-female teams participating in this year's Best Medic Competition, 1st Sgt. Alice Randolph and Sgt. First Class Erin Smith went unrivaled. We can also say that of all the Army National Guard teams, 1st Sgt. Alice Randolph and Sgt. First Class Erin Smith performed by far, the best!



Idaho Army National Guard Soldiers 1st Sgt. Alice Randolph, left and Sgt. 1st Class Erin Smith provide level 2 care--checking vital signs, airway and treating with medication-- on a "casualty" during this year's 2015 Jack L. Clark, Jr. U.S. Army Best Medic competition, held at Joint Base San Antonio at Camp Bollis, Texas November 28 -30. Randolph and Smith comprised of the first female team in the history of the competition and the only National Guard competitors in this year's contest. NGB Photo

> Although Idaho's Citizen-Soldier team did not win this year's overall competition, they stepped up, went through the gauntlet, represented the Idaho Army National Guard and the State of Idaho, and made us all PROUD! Congratulations to them both!

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